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# POTOSI JOURNAL.

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POTOSI, MO., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1903.

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Justice in Missouri seems to be suffering from the exposed nerve of its supreme court.

The "Missouri Idea" has run to technicalities, in other words—to seed. It should be uprooted next November.

There are some side lights to the Meramec bridge appropriation which some who had a hand in it are trying to keep dark.

The Butler verdict may be said to give assurance of largely increased Democratic majorities in St. Louis next fall in the "Snake" Kinney and "Caddy Mack" wards.

The Republican national committee which met in Washington last week to arrange for the national convention, is practically unanimously in favor of the nomination of Roosevelt.

Chairman Atkins of the Republican state committee has been appointed assistant United States treasurer at St. Louis. He will now probably resign the chairmanship.

Any attempt at political reform in Missouri will be abortive that does not strike at the root of the evil, the corrupt machine in control of the state government. We want no better proof of this than the hand-in-glove associations between the machine Democrats and men who are notably corrupt in their official and personal conduct.

The St. Louis Republic maintains that the nomination of Roosevelt by the Republicans next year would greatly enhance Democratic prospects of success in the presidential election. At the same time the Republic is assiduously booming Mark Hanna for the Republican nomination. Whether it be Teddy or Mark the result is already a foregone conclusion, the Democrats haven't a man who can keep in sight of either in the running.

What is everybody's business is nobody's business, therefore if anything is done to save the amount of the Meramec bridge appropriation by this county someone must take the initiative. The Journal has already expressed its willingness to support any legal steps towards this end by subscribing to a fund to defray the expense. If our people are in earnest in their opposition to the bridge the way to show it is to come forward individually and force action. The time for talk is past. The bridge appropriation has no lawful foundation and once in court it will soon be knocked out. The cost of instituting legal proceedings will be small.

The Butler case was decided by the supreme court upon technicalities, ostensibly. Butler says he never had any doubt of the final outcome of the case; neither had anyone else who had taken the trouble to study it in its political light. Butler let it be understood that he expected to have the decision of the lower court reversed, in which he conveyed the hint, delicately, but none the less menacingly, that it would not be well for the ring Democrats who control the state government if his expectations were not fulfilled. The verdict of the supreme court demonstrates above all other things to which it bears relation that Butler is the biggest part of the Democratic party in Missouri.

Missouri's greatest boddler and corruptionist, and Democratic party boss has escaped the coils of the law through the favor of the state supreme court. This does not mean however that the supreme court will let all the convicted boddlers loose. We expect to see at an early day, as the political campaign opens up in the state, the affirmation of the sentence of one of the lesser boddlers already convicted. He will undoubtedly be a Republican and infinitely less guilty than his eminent Democratic confederate in boddling just turned loose. This looked for affirmation must be made to appease public wrath; to furnish an object lesson for the voters how the law in Missouri un-

der Democratic rule is enforced against those who boodle in office. The same-cooked organs will flare and thump to beat the band over the fact that a Republican boddler has been landed in the pen by a Democratic supreme court. Ed Butler will smile approval at this enforcement of the verdict of an honest jury, and will turn to his Indians with orders that the ballot-boxes must be stuffed fuller than ever with Democratic votes at the next election that the state administration may receive an enthusiastic endorsement of this fulfillment of justice against a Republican who would be corrupt or who would attempt to corrupt others. Wow!

We see it stated that one class of structural labor in St. Louis receives wages as high as \$60 per week, or \$10 per day. It is said also that labor unions have made such wages possible by placing the workmen in a position to demand them and get them. This brings to mind the question, who pays the high wages? A little reflection will show that they are paid by the people—the contractor or pays the laborer, the owner of the building pays the contractor, the public furnishes the funds to the owner through the channels of trade. We all profess a solicitude that labor should receive the highest possible wages, yet we are wont to groan over the increased cost of living, the high price of this or that material, never thinking that we are paying someone as high as sixty dollar a week for his labor. We imagine it is the trusts who are getting the full benefit of these high prices, that they have combined to rob the people of their substance by a combination to force higher prices in the cost of living. We do not see the labor union in the background making repeated demands for higher wages for its members and getting them. There are trusts and trusts, and it is not always the trust of which we have a common conception that digs down into the pockets of the people.

Now that the voters are thoroughly awake as to the question of corrupt practices in politics, will they in this county stand for another such a booze and boodle campaign as have disgraced elections here for a number of years. Good citizens begin to see that such conditions cannot be permitted to exist in the community as a permanent institution. The corruption and debauchery of the voters may and does lead to more serious complications. Under the political conditions now prevailing in this county the citizens who bear the burden of taxation as well as the responsibility of maintaining the good name of the community, are not the men who decide how elections shall go and who shall fill the offices. The deciding vote is with that element which is willing and seeks to be corrupted in its political conduct. No one knows this better than the candidate, especially after he has been in the active campaign a few weeks. To win, therefore, he must either fall in with the prevailing practice or abandon the hope of success. Good men hesitate to resort to such means, and in consequence less scrupulous men win and party majorities are set at naught. This system leads to combinations between candidates of both parties, who in their selfishness do not hesitate to sacrifice party principle and self-respect to get the offices. The disasters to their county ticket which the Republicans have suffered for a number of years have not been altogether due to the superiority of the opposing ticket. If, therefore, the candidates are thus willing and ready to sacrifice their party principle by entering into these combinations and betrayals, why may not the voters of both parties get together and administer a corrective dose for a few successive elections by putting up a ticket composed of men in whom the taxpayers could have every confidence. The Journal is in favor of the Republicans putting up that kind of a ticket next year, and while it may go to defeat in its entirety in spite of the county being Republican, it will throw the whole odium of booze and boodle politics upon the opposing party, and will demonstrate where the corrective measure is to be administered.

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To The Honorable County Court:  
Messrs. Louis Page, I. V. Farmer and Jno. T. Boyer.

Gentlemen:—The undersigned, taxpaying citizens of Washington county, respectfully request the convening of your honorable body for the purpose of considering the legality of your recent action in appropriating \$833.33 (or any sum) for the building of a bridge outside the limits of this county; understanding as we do, that the appropriation above referred to is for a bridge no part of which is to be in Washington county. Respectfully,  
L. T. Hall, Morgan J. Casey, Joseph Walker, Daniel Oster, R. S. Browne, J. W. Dodson, Jno. F. Evans, Henry Walton, W. L. Hancock.

ED. JOURNAL:

I have handed you a request signed by several citizens calling upon our county court to convene for the purpose of considering the legality of its action in appropriating funds from our county revenue for the building of a bridge across the Meramec river, no part of which bridge is located within the boundaries of Washington county. The higher courts have said that the proceedings of a county court "can bind the county only when acting strictly within the scope of its authority," and "county courts have only such powers as are conferred by statute."

ute," and "cannot contract debt in excess of revenues for current year"—thus limiting the prerogatives of this body strictly within statutory provisions and rendering void any action not authorized by law. The attention of the court being called to the illegal features of this transaction, it was supposed some steps would be taken to correct the error. There is no spare time to be wasted in this matter and unless there is absolute indifference on the part of the taxpayers as to the loss of so large a sum of money from one of the most important "funds" (bridge and road) into which our county revenues are divided, there should be some prompt action. The warrant for this money has already been presented by the treasurer of Crawford County. Strange to say, though this warrant is drawn in favor of Crawford County, and already presented and gone to protest, the county court of Crawford county has deferred the question of its own appropriation, I am told, until the February term. To say the least—there are some mysterious features connected with this transaction.

If there is any law authorizing the county court to appropriate money from any of the funds of the county for expenditure outside the county an industrious search has failed to find it. I am aware of the provision for erecting a bridge over a stream dividing two counties by joint action of their courts, but it has no application in this case. It is due to the court as well as to the people that it avail itself of the earliest opportunity to correct the matter. L. T. HALL.

## All Around the State With Pen and Scissors.

A Missouri man has discovered a process whereby he can make cigars out of straw. If he tries to use it he is likely to find himself buried under suits for infringement.

The Tina Herald, in telling of a killing in Kansas City recently, said: "The sum of \$597.69 was found on the body—which proves that the dead man had not been in the city long."

The editor of the Parnell Sentinel is preparing to land a fearful jolt on the solar plexus of the Standard Oil trust. He proposes to cut out oil altogether and go to bed at sundown every night.

Mrs. Carl Victor of St. Louis has been chosen as the most perfectly developed woman in Missouri and will pose in the Madison Square Garden (New York) beauty and physical development contest.

The Bridge Question to Date.

The question of adopting and approving the plans of the Crawford county commissioner for the Sappington bridge was before the County court Monday and Tuesday. The plan adopted by the court is as follows:

The bridge, main span, to be 200 feet long, 16 feet roadway in the clear, with tubular abutment at one end and other end resting on rock bluff; steel approach on

Luther Long, a West Plains boy got his hand caught in a corn shredder last week and it was ground to a pulp. Three hours later George Smith, another boy, lost his right hand feeding the same machine.

Orders have been issued by President Corrigan of the Metropolitan Street railway at Kansas City that coffee urns be installed at all cable line terminals and hot coffee served to gripmen on demand without charge. The movement is to keep the men from drinking whiskey during the cold weather to keep them warm.

Noah was the first man to advertise. He advertised the flood and it came all right. The fellows who laughed at the advertising got drowned and it served them right. Ever since Noah's time the advertiser has been prospering, while the other fellow is being swallowed up in the flood of disaster.

The abutment side fifty feet long. The bridge is to be steel truss, with eye-beams, plank floor, 23 inches thick, of oak. The contract for the construction will be let at the regular term of February court.

Franklin county has sent a check for its part (one-sixth) of the cost of the bridge. Washington county has sent a warrant to our county treasurer for \$833.33, one-sixth of \$5000.00. The citizens of the eastern part of Crawford county have a certified check on file with

**Grove's Tasteless Chill Tonic**  
has stood the test 25 years. Average Annual Sales over One and a Half Million bottles. Does this record of merit appeal to you? No Cure, No Pay. 50c.  
Enclosed with every bottle is a Ten Cent package of Grove's Black Root Liver Pills.

the treasurer of Crawford county for \$2,500.

Section 5188 of the revised statutes says:

"The commissioners shall do nothing toward building the bridge after the letting thereof; until an appropriation for the same shall first be made by the county court."

The contract for building the bridge, provided the funds are obtained, will be let by the Crawford county court at the February term.—Steelville Mirror.

Johnson Township Heard From.

EDITOR JOURNAL:

I will give you the result of personal inquiries in regard to the Meramec bridge at Sappington's bluff.

I have talked with a number of people on Indian Creek and all around in this, the north, end of Johnson township, and have yet to find the first man who favors the scheme—which is the term applied to the bridge project around here. Most of the people here say that this scheme is to benefit a few people in Sullivan more than elsewhere; that the benefits to be derived from the bridge to this county will not warrant the expenditure of \$833 of Washington county's money illegally, or legally for that matter, and we are hopeful that the Journal has scotched the project.

**STARTLING EVIDENCE.**  
Fresh testimony in great quantity is constantly coming in, declaring Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption Coughs and Colds to be unequalled. A recent expression from T. J. McFarland, Bentonville, Va., serves as example. He writes: "I had bronchitis for three years and decorated all the time without being benefited. Then I began taking Dr. King's New Discovery, and a few bottles wholly cured me." Equally effective in curing all Lung and Throat troubles, Consumption, Pneumonia and Grip. Price 50c and \$1.00. Guaranteed by F. X. Teasdale, Druggist.

By a little attention to the spelling of these names it will be seen that it is very easy to change Baugher to Flaughner, substitute "F" for "B" and the trick is done. This was the change made last Thursday night when Miss Marie Baugher was married to Mr. James Flaughner. The wedding was a quiet one conducted at bride's home in Lake View by Rev. Maynard, evangelist, who was here at the time conducting meetings at the M. E. Church. The bride is the youngest daughter of our honorable citizen, E. C. Baugher, deputy revenue collector, and is one of Sullivan's prettiest and best respected young ladies. The groom, or "Jim" as many are wont to call him, is one of our best boys, industrious and correct in all his habits. They have settled down to housekeeping at the Flaughner home in the west end of town and life seems auspicious to them in every way.—Sullivan Sentinel.

**TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY**  
Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature is on each box. 25c.

**STRAYED.**  
Eight head of cattle, one 2-year-old and seven yearlings; labeled in ears with metal tag, inscribed, "S. A. Wiley, Belgrade, Mo.," all dewlapped. A suitable reward will be paid for information leading to their recovery. S. A. WILEY, Belgrade, Mo.

**THAT THROBBING HEADACHE**  
Would quickly leave you, if you used Dr. King's New Life Pills. Thousands of sufferers have proved their matchless merit for Sick and Nervous Headache. They make pure blood and build up your health. Only 25c, and guaranteed to give satisfaction by F. X. Teasdale, Druggist.

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**Flat Woods.**  
Mrs. W. C. Lyons of Clear Creek visited friends here the latter part of last week.

George Fortune visited his sister at Caledonia Saturday.

Mr. L. C. Queen, we are glad to report is improving under the skillful treatment of Dr. Adams of Bellevue.

Miss Lucy Maxwell, who has been attending school at Chillicothe, returned home Thursday.

Bert Smith of Belgrade visited friends here Sunday.

The crack of the rifle is heard in almost every direction now as we have had some very fine weather for hunting rabbits. They seem to be plentiful from the number that have been killed. JOSIAH AND SAMANTHA.

**DRIVEN TO DESPERATION.**  
Living in an out of the way place, remote from civilization, a family is often driven to desperation in case of accident, resulting in Burns, Wounds, Cuts, Ulcers, etc. Lay in a supply of Bucklen's Arnica Salve. Its best on earth. Only 25c, at Teasdale's Drug Store.

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